

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 734 - SB 1266

February 26, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities (HCF) to promulgate emergency rules to permit individuals who qualified as temporary nurse aides, in nursing homes, during the national public health emergency declared on January 31, 2020, to become certified as nursing assistants in this state and be placed on the nurse aide registry.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to the Board of HCF rule 1200-08-06-.15, to be certified as a nurse aide, an individual is required to complete a state-approved nurse aide training program, pass a competency examination and register with the Tennessee Nurse Aides Registry.
- Pursuant to the Board of HCF rule 1200-08-06-.15(3), a nursing home is prohibited from allowing any individual to work in a facility as a nurse aide for more than four months unless that individual has registered with the Tennessee Nurse Aide Registry.
- On April 1, 2020, in response to the national public health emergency, the Board of HCF waived the requirement for nurse aides to complete training and competency examination within the allotted four-month time frame and created a Temporary Nurse Aide Certification Program. The temporary certification program requires candidates to complete a training course and pass an exam.
- Authorizing individuals who qualified as temporary nurse aides during the national public health emergency to become certified as nursing assistants and placed on the state registry will not result in any change to licensure fee revenue as there is no fee associated with registering.
- According to the Department of Health, the Board of HCF can implement the requirements of the purposed legislation within existing resources without a significant fiscal impact to state government.
- The Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities (HCF) is required to collect fees in an amount sufficient to pay the costs of operating the Boards. All fees collected by the Board are deposited by the DOH with the State Treasurer to the credit of the General Fund and shall be expended by the Department and included in the appropriation made for the Board in the *General Appropriations Act*.
- Any change in expenditures of the Boards is estimated to be not significant.
- The HCF Board had a net surplus of \$47,600 in FY18-19 and a net surplus of \$259,145 in FY19-20.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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